

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 11-20 are all the claims currently pending in this Application.

Claims 1-8, 11-14, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ouchi (U.S. Patent 6,493,149) in view of Janssen. Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ouchi in view of Janssen and Bierhuizen (U.S. Patent 6,839,095). Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ouchi in view of Janssen, Bierhuizen, and Ito (U.S. Publication 2002/0180933). Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Ouchi in view of Janssen and Shahzad (U.S. Publication 2002/0191154).

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Applicants submit that none of the cited references, either alone, or in combination, teach or suggest “a scrolling unit, comprising a plurality of spirally-arranged lens cells, which converts a rotation of the lens cells into a rectilinear motion of an area of the lens cell through which light passes,” as recited in independent claim 1.

In his rejections, the Examiner relies on Janssen as teaching this limitation.

Janssen is directed to a scrolling apparatus for a color projection device. (Abstract) However, the element that the Examiner refers to, the disk 40 illustrated in Figure 4B, includes a number of spirally arranged holographic elements. These elements are not “lens cells” and light does not pass through them. Therefore, Applicants submit that the Examiner’s combination of cited references fails to teach the claimed “scrolling unit, comprising a plurality of spirally-arranged lens cells, which converts a rotation of the lens cells into a rectilinear motion of an area of the lens cell through which light passes.”

In view of the above, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over any reasonable combination of the cited references and that claims 2-8 and 11-20 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 1. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of the claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

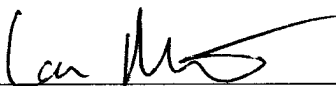
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER



Laura Moskowitz
Registration No. 55,470

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